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OFFICE OF THE INDEPENDENT COUNSEL

Date of transcription 2/2/98

ISABELE YOUNG WATKINS, Executive Assistant to U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, BILL RICHARDSON, was made available for interview by her attorney, FREDERICK P. HAFETZ, at the law firm GOLDMAN & HAFETZ, 500 Fifth Ave., New York, NY. HAFETZ was present during the interview. Both were advised of the purpose of the interview and the official identity of Office of Independent Counsel Investigator [REDACTED] and Federal Bureau of Investigation Special Agent [REDACTED]. WATKINS thereafter provided the following information:

WATKINS has been employed in her present position since February 1997. Prior to her current position, WATKINS was BILL RICHARDSON's Chief of Staff in his congressional office from September 1988 to January 1997.

WATKINS summarized her job responsibilities as being RICHARDSON's "gate keeper." If anyone calls RICHARDSON, WATKINS is the one who receives the calls and screens them. Because of the number of years she has worked for RICHARDSON, WATKINS knows who RICHARDSON wants to talk to and who he prefers to talk to at a later time. If RICHARDSON is not in at the time of the call, WATKINS prepares a "call sheet" listing the names of the individuals that called, date, time, number and short message. The call sheet is on their WANG Word Processor and WATKINS removes the names after RICHARDSON has returned the call or RICHARDSON has instructed her to remove the name.

WATKINS also takes care of RICHARDSON's scheduling, especially his visits to Washington D.C., since she worked in RICHARDSON's Washington, D.C., office for over ten years. WATKINS will normally make the initial calls to set up RICHARDSON's appointments. RICHARDSON's day is normally very busy with three or four events plus a number of face-to-face meetings. WATKINS described RICHARDSON as a "hands on" type person.

Most of the employees in the U.S. Mission are foreign service employees. There are also some civil servants, contract employees and political appointment positions. WATKINS' position is considered a political appointment position. Contract employees are hired to do specific tasks and are normally hired to assist when the General Assembly is in session. WATKINS

Investigation on 1/30/98 at New York City, NY File # 29D-LR-35063

by CI [REDACTED] Date dictated 2/2/98